

To Whom It May Concern:

I urge you to REJECT NAB's petition 04-160 to exclude XM radio from broadcasting traffic and weather. I am an XM subscriber, and a portion of what I pay for is the ability to hear traffic reports into Boston. I travel regularly to Boston from my home, and given the disaster called the Big Dig, I have needed to rely on traffic reports often.

The NAB wishes to exclude XM from broadcasting traffic, but what they don't say is that traffic reports on most stations, if they even have traffic, are generally only during commute times, and rarely "timely". I generally travel after commute times, so if it were up to the NAB, I would not be entitled to traffic reports. The NAB's petition would remove my freedom to choose what format of music, news, traffic, and weather I listen to.

Nothing is stopping the NAB or radio station owners from setting up their own "all weather & traffic" radio stations to serve the local communities. This attempt to squelch competition is un-American.

Again, I urge you to REJECT NAB's petition 04-160.

Sincerely,  
Pierre Blanc, Esquire